



NITROMETHANE

UN 1261

Shipping Name: Nitromethane

Other Names: Nitrocarbol



WARNING! • EXPLOSIVE! MAY EXPLODE WHEN HEATED ABOVE 446°F OR SHOCKED!

Hazards:

- Highly flammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Vapors may travel long distances to ignition sources and flashback
- Vapors in confined areas (e.g., tanks, sewers, buildings) may explode when exposed to fire
- Irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs
- Combustion products include toxic nitrogen oxides

Awareness and Operational Level Training

Response:

- Stay uphill and upwind
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate a wide area around the release and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Evacuate the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

Description:

- Clear colorless oily liquid
- Disagreeable odor
- Sinks in water and is moderately soluble in water
- Highly flammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas

Operational Level Training Response:

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Use large amounts of water to disperse vapors - contain runoff
- Consider the application of alcohol resistant (AFFF) foam only to large areas of spilled liquid to control vapors
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

FIRE:

- Specially trained personnel operating from a safe distance can fight fires using alcohol resistant (AFFF) foam or dry chemical if available in sufficient amounts. Under favorable conditions, experienced crews can use coordinated fog streams to sweep the flames off the surface of the burning liquid. Keep exposures cool to protect against re-ignition. Do not direct straight streams into the liquid.
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of deforming), withdraw immediately to a secure location

First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
 - ♦ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
 - ♦ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
 - ♦ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
 - ♦ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

CAS: 75-52-5